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NEWENT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
for the Year  
1957  
M. L. SUTCLIFFE  
T.D., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NEWENT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman & Members of the Council.



Mr. Chairman, Mrs Rowden and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the hygiene conditions and vital statistics of the District for the year 1957. It includes the report of the Public Health Inspectors and is compiled to conform with Articles 6(3) & 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of Ministry of Health Circular 1/58, dated 13th January, 1958.

It will be noted that the birth rate is high and the death rate low, when compared with England and Wales. It is unfortunate that the infantile mortality rate is high especially when compared with the very low figure of 14.2 of 1956. However, the numbers involved are so small that statistics do not give a true picture.

The general environmental conditions in the District are dealt with under the appropriate headings.

I have now had the pleasure of being Medical Officer of Health to the District for 21 years and, during this period, considerable advances in medicine, both curative and preventive have been made throughout the world, and the need for better environmental living conditions of the population more fully recognised.

Curative medicine has been helped by the use of sulfa drugs, penicillin and the antibiotics, and preventive medicine by increased use of immunisation against disease. In 1937 immunisation was only provided against small-pox while in 1957 the District had available immunisation against small-pox, diphtheria (started by the Council in 1937), whooping cough, polio and tuberculosis, while immunisation against many other disease is available under the National Health Service Act, 1946. From the more Public Health aspect as regards cleanliness, the use of D.D.T. and similar insecticides has been invaluable.

I think the following statistics from my Annual Reports for 1937 and 1957 are of interest for comparison.

General Statistics.

	1937.	1957
Population .....	7,220	8,420
Number of inhabited houses .....	2,154	2,633
Rateable value .....	£23,069	£56,089
Sum represented by 1d rate .....	£103	£235.17.9d
Number of parishes with main water.....	7	14 (all)
Number of schools with main water.....	5	11 (all)
Number of parishes with refuse collection.	1	14 (all)

It will be noted that there have been considerable improvements in the provision of main water supplies and refuse collection. The fact that the population has not increased more, is probably owing to the lack of industry in the District.

With regard to sewage disposal, new works were constructed shortly after the War for the village of Dymock, but the Newent system has unfortunately not yet been modernised up to present day requirements.



Vital Statistics.

	1937.	1957
Birth Rate	15.6 (Eng. Wales 14.9)	20.07 (Eng. & Wales 16.1)
Infantile mortality Rate	53.1   "   "   58	47.6   "   "   23
Death Rate	11.5   "   "   12.4	9.27   "   "   11.5
Maternal mortality Rate	Nil.   "   "   3.11	Nil
Diphtheria	16 cases with 1 death	No cases since 1949.
Tuberculosis	7 deaths	1 death

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking other members of the Council's staff for their co-operation, mentioning especially the Surveyor and assistant Public Health Inspector whose wide scope of work is well seen in this Report, and finally to thank the Chairman and members of the Council and the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and co-operation.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

Maurice L. Sutcliffe,

Medical Officer of Health.



PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (31.12.57)

Chairman: R. S. Chew.

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. B.V.W. Rowden.

Members: J.M. Brooks, A.J. Bubb, I.C. Davies, F. Dunn, J. Harrison, A.E. Hicks, G.H. Hyett, F.G. Knight, J.M. Smith, C.L. Snell, P.F. Winfield and W.E. Wright.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

M.L. Sutcliffe, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M., Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Joint M.O.H. Committee, and County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for No. 5 Division (Gloucester Area Health Sub-Committee).

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

H.S. Jenkinson, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Inspector under Petroleum Acts and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR & RODENT CONTROL OFFICER.

M. Steer, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Appointed 9th January, 1956.

RODENT OPERATOR (PART-TIME).

J. Freeman.

CLERK.

Miss M.C. Davis.



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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area (in acres) 40,845.

Population Registrar-General's estimated Home Population mid-1957, 8,420.

Number of inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1957) according to  
Rate Books, 2,633.

Rateable Value (December 31st, 1957) £56,089.

Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March 1957). £235.17.9d

General Rate 1957-58, 17/-d (County Precept) 15/6d.

### Industry in the District.

Employment in the District is mainly agricultural, fruit farming and in local businesses. This is insufficient to employ all the workers in the District and there is a considerable daily emigration to work in and around Gloucester. This cannot be considered satisfactory because any area should be able to provide employment for its residents, and with this in view, the County Planning Authority are interested in any possible developments of industry in the Newent area.

The provision of local industries would make smaller areas in the County more self-supporting, would relieve transport problems and would even up the housing needs of the Local Authorities in the County.

Newent is a local shopping centre but as so many residents work in or near Gloucester, much of their shopping is done there. The town is also the centre for secondary school education in the District.

## ADOPTIVE LEGISLATION IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

### Byelaws.

- i. Building Byelaws (adopted 1.8.53).
- ii. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air (adopted 14.8.50)
- iii. New Streets Byelaws (adopted 26.1.57).



## VITAL STATISTICS.

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the District with certain rates which are compared where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 22.

Table I.

### Infantile Births and Deaths.

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Combined Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births	73	68	141	4	2	6	147
Still Births	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Infant Deaths							
(a) 0-4 weeks	4	-	4	1	-	1	5
(b) 4 wks-1 yr.	2	-	2	-	-	-	2

Table 2.

### Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
Total deaths	50	33	83

Table 3.

### Birth and Death Rates.

	Newent District	England & Wales.
Crude live birth rate per 1,000 population	17.45 )	16.1
Corrected live birth rate per 1,000 population	20.07 )	
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births	13.4	22.4
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	9.86 )	11.5
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	9.27 )	
Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births.	47.6	23.0
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	42.5	Not Available.
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	166	
Death rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total births.	Nil	0.47

x NOTE - the corrected Birth and Death Rates are obtained by multiplying the Crude Rates by the factors 1.15 and 0.94 respectively. These factors are supplied by the Registrar General and serve to make the Crude Rates for the District comparable with the Rates for the country as a whole.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

### Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of pathological specimens, and analyses of milk and ice cream samples etc., is carried out at the laboratory of the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, under the Medical Research Council Scheme. (There is no charge for this work).

Water and sewage analyses, taken by this Department, are carried out by the Council's Analyst's, Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

### Hospitals.

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention who are dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over, which is administered by the Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee.

### Ambulance Facilities.

1 County Council ambulance and 3 full-time driver-attendants are stationed in Newent. Infectious disease cases are transported by the Isolation Hospital ambulances.

### Nursing in the Home.

There are 3 District Nursing Associations in the area which are supervised by the County.

The whole District is covered by the nurses, who, in addition to midwifery and home-nursing, act as Health Visitors for the County and carry out school medical work, Health and Tuberculosis visiting etc.

### Home Help Service.

This service is administered by the County Area Health Sub-Committee. Although it does valuable work in cases of temporary sickness or incapacity, it's greatest value is in caring for the aged or chronic sick. It is generally agreed that old people should be cared for in their own homes as long as possible, instead of being transferred to hostels or hospitals, not only perhaps because old people prefer their homes, but also because the cost to the tax payers is much less. Old people, right or wrong, feel that removal from their homes is a big step towards the grave.

The following types of cases are assisted and the figures on 31st December, 1957, were:-

Maternity cases	-
General sickness	1
Tuberculosis	-
Chronic sickness or old age	<u>26</u>

On December 31st there was 1 full-time and 27 part-time home-helps in the District.

### National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951.

These Acts authorise the Council and their Medical Officer of Health to arrange for the compulsory removal of aged and sick persons living in insanitary conditions to a hospital or residential institution.

Cases of this type can often be persuaded to move voluntarily as a result of persuasion by this Department and the County Welfare Department,



but during the year compulsory removal to hospital was necessary in one case.

During the year, one old lady at Hartpury, was kept under continuous observation and finally had to be compulsorily removed in January, 1958.

#### CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

These Centres are under the general administration of the County Area Health Sub-Committee on which the Council have members.

During the year the arrangements changed considerably, use being made for the first time of the mobile County Welfare Centre caravan trailer.

In 1956 there were only two static Centres at Newent and Dymock, whereas in 1957 the Centre at Newent remained unchanged but mobile sessions were arranged at Redmarley, Bromsberrow, Dymock, Rudford and Staunton. The new arrangements naturally make it much easier for mothers to attend.

Attendances at these Centres are very good and the greatest thanks are due to the hard work put in by the voluntary Committees in making them a success.

#### CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These are administered by the County Council, and are held at The Clinic, Picklenash School, Newent.

#### MORTUARY.

In 1940, as part of Civil Defence, the Chapel portion of the Cemetery building was converted into a mortuary. Main water and sewerage are provided. It was used four times in 1957.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

### Water Supplies.

Main water supplies in the District are provided by Gloucester Corporation and to a much lesser extent, Malvern Urban District Council and these statutory water undertakings are responsible for the purity and adequacy of their supplies.

The Corporation have two pumping stations in the District, the one at Newent having been modernised in 1957. In addition they have other sources notably the almost inexhaustible supplies available from the River Severn at Tewkesbury.

Malvern Urban District Council have one pumping station in the District.

Extensions of mains in 1957 by parishes.

(a) Gloucester Corporation.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Size of Main.</u>	<u>Length (yards).</u>
Corse.	4"	389
Hartpury.	3"	2,750
Tibberton.	4"	2,374
Rudford.	3"	706
Staunton.	3"	<u>713</u>
		<u>6,932</u>

(b) Malvern Urban District Council.

Nil.

Extensions of mains authorised by the Council but not yet laid.

(a) Gloucester Corporation.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Size of Main.</u>	<u>Length (yards).</u>
Redmarley.	9"	2,630
	6"	1,400
	4"	670
Newent.	9"	1,640
Taynton.	9"	200
	4"	2,501
	3"	<u>350</u>
		<u>9,391</u>

(b) Malvern Urban District Council.

Nil.

### Water Shortage.

There was a temporary main water shortage at Hillend Green and Kilcot for a short time while work was being done in modernising the Newent pumping station.

### Well Supplies.

These are neither satisfactory nor adequate for present day needs, and the steady increase in the availability of main supplies is most satisfactory. All well supplies should be boiled before being used for drinking purposes.

6 well supply samples were examined by the Council's Analyst and all were considered unsatisfactory.



In recent years there has been very excellent progress in the provision of main water supplies in the District, and since the war about 72 miles of new mains have been laid. The result is that as a rural area with agriculture as practically its only industry it is probably as well supplied as any similar area in the country. The main advantages of this are naturally in connection with milk production and other agricultural needs, but at the same time domestic users also benefit. Table 4 shows that over 75% of the houses in the District have main water supplies compared with only 29% at the end of the war. This is most satisfactory.

**Main Water Supplies in the District showing the Number of Houses and Population served.**

(These figures are provided in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 17/55).

**Table 4.**

Parish.	Main Supply.	No. of houses supplied.	Pop.	Stand Pipes (Main).	No. of houses supplied	Pop.
Bromsberrow.	Malvern U.D.C.	51	163			
Corse.	Glos. Corporation	76	243			
Dymock	Malvern U.D.C.	45	143	2	13	41
	Glos. Corporation.	188	601			
Hartpury.	".	136	435			
Kempley.	"	72	230			
Newent.	Newent Town (Glos. Corporation).	591	1901	5	14	45
	Glos. Corporation.	283	905			
Oxenhall.	"	45	143			
Pauntley.	"	24	76	1	1	3
Redmarley.	"	116	371			
Rudford.	Malvern U.D.C.	18	67			
Staunton.	Glos. Corporation.	44	140			
Taynton.	"	96	307			
Tibberton.	"	56	179			
Upleaden.	"	67	214			
	"	56	179			
TOTAL		1964	6297	8	28	89



## SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION.

Most sewage disposal in the District is on the "conservancy" system under which householders are responsible for dealing with their own sewage.

The Council's sewage disposal plants are as follows:-

- i. Newent Town. These works at Cleeve Lane are totally inadequate and inefficient, and have been for years. As far back as 1951, the Council's Consulting Engineer was asked to propose schemes for new works, but owing to indecision as to their location, progress has, to all intents and purposes, been nil. However, the future is a little brighter as a satisfactory site is now under consideration. Delay is regrettable as it will inevitably mean considerably increased cost to the ratepayers.
- ii. Dymock Village. These modern works are satisfactory. They at present serve 30-40 houses and are capable of serving the whole village.
- iii. Corse and Staunton. These new works are satisfactory, 12 Council houses and a number of private ones being connected to it.
- iv. Redmarley. The Council's works serve the 16 Council houses and two private houses.  
A village ditch is the only method of sewage disposal for a number of houses, and is cleansed by the Council. It is not satisfactory.
- v. Hartpury. These modern works serving a private enterprise housing development have been taken over by the Council.

## PUBLIC LAVATORIES.

These are situated at Newent and Dymock and are satisfactory. A new public lavatory is under consideration in Watery Lane, Newent.

## REFUSE COLLECTION.

This is carried out weekly in Newent Town and four-weekly in the rest of the District. A more frequent collection should be considered in certain parishes.

Tips now in use are at Corse, Dymock, Malswick and Tibberton.

Trade refuse is collected on request and payment.

## SALVAGE.

37½ tons of paper salvage were collected during the year, and the Council own their own baler.



SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

A summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors is tabulated below:-

Table 5.

Inspections	Number of	Notices Served		Defects remedied	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling houses	2002	103		91	
Milk and Dairies	32	2		2	
Factories etc.	46	3		3	
Bakehouses	22	4		4	
Food premises	178	24		19	
Slaughterhouses	140	7		7	
Water supplies	158	24		19	
Drainage & Sewerage	490	17	1	17	1
Infectious disease	13	3		3	
Pests	373	22		20	
Miscellaneous	1112				
<b>Total</b>	<b>4566</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>1</b>

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Responsibility for the administration of Section 38, subsections 3, 4 and 5 were delegated to this Authority by the County Council in 1952. These subsections deal with the health conditions of shop workers.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951, OFFENSIVE TRADES AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was required during the year.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACTS, 1928-1936.

37 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit.

CAMPING SITES.

15 Licences were issued during the year for individual caravans, and there are now 22 current licences in the District. They comply with the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Some years ago the River Leadon was used for bathing purposes, but its use is much less now and it is very doubtful if it can now be considered fit, owing to the probability of sewage pollution.

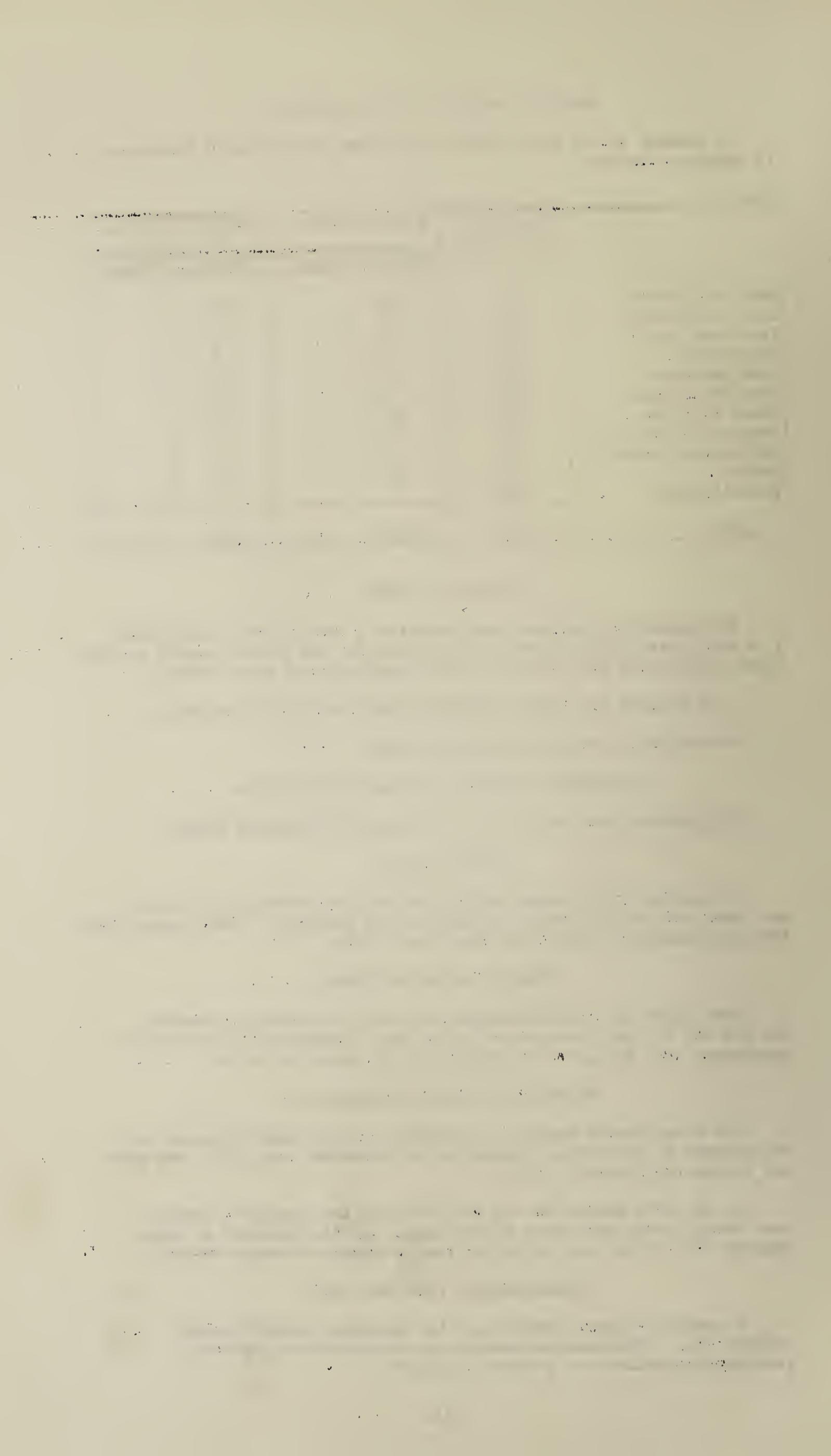
POLLUTION OF RIVERS, STREAMS ETC.

The River Severn Board is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, and made new byelaws in February, 1957.

In May 1956 samples of the effluent from the Council's Cleeve Lane Sewage Works were taken by the Board, and the comments of their analyst were: "Very bad, no better than a strong untreated sewage".

DISINFESTATION (BED BUGS ETC).

4 complaints were received and the necessary disinfection carried out. Verminous infestation is now quite rare, and is practically confined to "problem" families.



PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report by the Public Health Inspector.

During the year the following work was carried out:-

Table 6.

	Inspections.	Treatments.
Private Dwellings.	103	5
Council Houses.	22	4
Farms.	41	G.A.E.C.
Business Premises.	143	5
Sewers.	10	5
Refuse Tips.	54	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>26</b>

Details of work carried out on Sewers and Refuse Tips.

Table 7.

Sewers and Works.	Action Taken.	Result.
Cleeve Lane Sewage Works.	Treatment.	Minor Infestation - Cleared.
Cadbury's Sewage Works.	Treatment.	Clear.
Lancaster Terrace Sewage Works	Test Baited.	Clear.
Newent Town Sewers.	3 Treatments.	Clear.
Dymock Sewerage System.	2 Treatments.	Clear.

Table 8

Refuse Tips.	Action Taken.	Result.
Dymock Refuse Tip.	Test Baited (2 treatments).	Clear.
Malswick Tip.	Test Baited (3 treatments).	Under observation.
Corse.	Treatment.	Clear.
Tibberton.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Newent R.D.C. Yard (Salvage Depot).	Test Baited (2 treatments).	Mice - cleared by treatments.

When this Council carries out treatments at private dwelling or business premises at the request of the owner/occupier, charges are made to cover the full cost of the treatment, except in the case of old age pensioners.

The Council have no arrangements to carry out disinfection by contract.

The Council's Rodent Operator is a full-time employee and undertakes part-time duty in Rodent Control when necessary. The methods employed are those recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.



## HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year.

By the Council	nil.
By private enterprise	<u>29</u>
Total	<u>29</u>

During the year the Council purchased the High House, Dymock and converted it into three flats. Work is in hand to convert the stables into a dwelling house, and it is proposed to make the basement available for emergency housing.

### Housing proposals for 1958.

There are tentative schemes at The Tythings, Newent, primarily to deal with slum clearance, and at Corse where financial considerations are the predominant factor.

### Housing Progress.

During the period 1.4.45. to 31.12.57, 200 houses were erected by the Council and 161 by private enterprise. This is not as high a figure as one would wish, because good housing is one of the most important items in the health and well-being of the community.

The Council owned 329 houses at the end of 1957, and 3 flats.



Statutory Action during the year with respect  
to totally unfit houses.

I. Housing Act, 1936, Section II - Demolition Orders.

(a) Number of demolition orders recommended .....	3
(b) Number of demolition orders made by Council.....	Nil
(c) Number of undertakings accepted not to use dwellings for human habitation .....	3
(d) Number of houses on which a demolition order was operative but where application for re-conditioning was accepted (Section 5 Housing Repairs and Rents Act) .....	1
(e) Number of houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action .....	-

2. Housing Act, 1936. Section 25 - Clearance Areas.

(a) Number of houses demolished in Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Areas.....	-
(b) Clearance Orders made during the year .....	-
(c) Clearance Orders under consideration .....	-
(d) Compulsory Purchase Orders made during the year .....	-
(e) Compulsory Purchase Orders under consideration .....	-

3. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

(a) Number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders..	1
---	---

OVERCROWDING.

One or two cases have been reported but on the whole, overcrowding  
is negligible in the District.

The average number of people per house is 3.2, the same as last  
year.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

In the Ministry of Health Circular 19/56 a request was made that the Public Health Department include a detailed report on food premises in the District. Table 9 gives the particulars asked for.

Table 9.

Type of Business	Total Number.	No. of Inspections.	Remarks.
Cafes & Canteens.	15	32	This includes school canteens.
Grocery and Provision Shops.	34	111	This includes sweet shops and chemists.
Ice Cream Vendors.	15	10	Registered under S.16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955.
Butchers Shops.	7	47	(This includes two mobile Traders from outside the district). 3 Registered under S.16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955 (Sausage making etc.)
Fishmongers.	4	9	(This includes 3 mobile vans) There is one fried fish premises in the district.
Bakehouses.	5	30	Three of these are small and old-fashioned, but improved methods of preparation have been brought about during the year.
Licensed Premises.	19	19	3 are without H & C water. All are in good hygienic condition.
Dairies.	3	16	Registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.
Wholesale Premises (Food Manufacture).	1	3	Egg Packing and Poultry Dressing Station.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>287</b>	

Generally speaking, the standards of the food premises mentioned in Table 9 are satisfactory.

Disposal of condemned food is a very minor matter, and is dealt with by burial on the Council tips. Suitable meat condemned at the slaughterhouses is dyed and salvaged for manufacture by slaughterhouse owners.

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955-56.

Personal visits by the Public Health Inspectors are made and a satisfactory standard is maintained. No complaints were received during the year and owners of food premises have been co-operative in encouraging the standard of cleanliness required by these Regulations.



Milk Supplies.

This District is practically entirely agricultural with nearly 300 milk producers. Most of the milk produced is consumed outside the District and is taken to the City of Gloucester for pasteurising, or processed at Messrs. Cadbury's factory at Frampton-on-Severn.

The general supervision of dairy farm premises and milk production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The Council have powers under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, with regard to the spread of infectious disease by milk. No action was necessary during the year.

The Council is responsible for registration and licences as shown in Tables 10 and 11.

All milk sold retail in the district has to be either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

Table 10.

Issue of Licences for Milk Dealers.

Classification of Milk.	Dealer's Licences.	Supplementary Licences.
Tuberculin Tested	3	-
Pasteurised.	4	3
Sterilised.	1	-

Note:- Supplementary Licences are issued to dealers who distribute milk from premises situated outside the District.

Table 11.

Milk Registration.

No. of milk distributors registered	7
No. of dairy premises registered (other than dairy farms).	3

Table 12.

Retail Milk Sampling.

Nature of Test.	Results of Examinations.	
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Methylene Blue (keeping quality).	8	-
Phosphatase (efficiency of pasteurisation)	3	-
Biological (presence of Tb. etc.)	Sampling by County P.H. Dept.	
Coliform or plate count (cleanliness))		

Anthrax Order, 1938 and Foot and Mouth Disease.

No suspected cases were notified during the year.

MEAT.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952.  
Slaughterhouses.

There are 3 slaughterhouses in the District at Newent, Dymock and Tibberton. (The one at Tibberton is used only occasionally).

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954.

19 Slaughtermen are licensed in the District.



Table 13.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats	Horses	Total
Number killed (if known)	160	-	8	876	291	-	-	1335
Number inspected	160	-	8	876	291	-	-	1335
All diseases except tuberculosis and <u>cysticerci</u>								
Whole carcases condemned						2		2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	39			70	34			143
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	24.37			7.87	12.37			10.93
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>								
Whole carcases condemned						1		1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	3					2		5
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.87			1.03				0.37
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>								
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	1							1
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refriger- ation.	1							1
Generalised and totally condemned								

Total weight of meat or organs condemned for:-

- (1) All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis ..... 788 lbs
- (2) Tuberculosis ..... 146 lbs
- (3) Cysticercosis ..... 52 lbs



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

This Department is notified when shops or individuals suspect that articles of food are unfit for human consumption.

Table 14 shows the articles of food condemned during the year.

Table 14.

Articles.	Non-Preserved.	Preserved or Tinned.
Meat.		8 tins.
Vegetables.		4 tins
Fruit and Fruit Juices.		128 tins
Fish.		15 tins.
Milk.	10 x $\frac{1}{3}$ pints.	

The exceedingly small amount of food which had to be condemned is most satisfactory.

**Ice Cream**

**Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc) Regulations, 1947 & 1948.**

During the year no ice cream was manufactured in the District. There are 15 licensed retailers who purchase from large wholesalers, and one or two mobile retailers.

**Bakehouses.**

There are 5 bakehouses in the District at Corse, Dymock, Hartpury, Newent and Redmarley.

Those at Dymock and Corse are modernised and satisfactory, and during the year considerable improvements were carried out at the one in Newent.

A considerable amount of bread consumed is manufactured in large modern bakeries outside the District.

**Adulteration.**

The relevant sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are administered by the County Council.

**Outbreaks of Food Poisoning.**

During the year, no notifications of cases of food poisoning were received. This may be considered very satisfactory.



ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Table 15.

Inspections for the provisions as to health				
	No. of premises in Register	No. of Inspections.	No. of written notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 5, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	23	26	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers).	10	17	-	-
Total	40	58	-	-

Table 16.

Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases where defects were found			No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness S.1.	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding S.2.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. S.3	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation S.4	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors S.6.	-	-	-	-	-
Latrines S.7	-	-	-	-	-
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Homework)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

Outworkers (Sections 110 and 111)

No outworkers were reported in the district during the year.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table 21 shows the incidence of notifiable infectious disease by Parishes and age groups.

There was a little measles during the year, but otherwise infectious disease notifications were very low.

### Diphtheria.

This Council started a diphtheria immunisation scheme for the District in 1937, and in 1940 responsibility for the scheme was taken over by the County, when it was officially recommended by the Ministry of Health.

As a result of immunisation, which is of course still very necessary, diphtheria has been practically eliminated and there have been no cases in this District since 1949.

### Whooping Cough.

Immunisation is carried out by a County scheme started in 1955.

### Polio (acute Poliomyelitis)

Vaccine for immunisation was made available by the Ministry of Health early in 1956. The County Council immediately formulated a scheme but owing to shortage of vaccine only limited immunisation was possible in that year.

In 1957 supplies improved and I was issued with about 5,500 doses of British vaccine for my three Districts, each child requiring two doses. This still was not enough so large supplies of Canadian and United States of America Salk vaccine are being made available in 1958.

The aim now is to immunise all children born in the years 1943 to 1957, expectant mothers, and others whose occupations are a special risk.

Although there was a considerable amount of polio in the country as a whole, there were fortunately only 2 cases notified in this District.

### Small Pox and Typhoid.

There were no small pox or typhoid contacts notified during the year.

### Food poisoning.

No cases were notified during the year and this may be considered very satisfactory.

### Influenza.

During the autumn there was an epidemic of Asian Flu in the country which reached Gloucestershire in October.

The outbreak was severe while it lasted and the following figures are of interest. They are claims for sickness benefit received in the Gloucester office of the Ministry of Pensions & National Insurance and include this District. The increased numbers may probably almost all, be due to influenza.

#### Sickness claims received week ending:-

Sept.	17th .....	275
	24th .....	507
Oct.	1st .....	811
	8th .....	1437
	15th .....	1962
	22nd .....	1414
	29th .....	782
Nov.	5th .....	443
	12th .....	332



INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

Table 17 shows the incidence of infectious disease in schools as obtained during term time from head teachers. It cannot be considered accurate, but it gives a fair general picture. In some schools for example, flu was considered as a cold and not reported, whereas in others, colds were called flu.

Table 17.

School	Average No. on Register	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox	Mumps	'Flu
Bromesberrow	29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corse	58	-	-	-	2	2	10
Dymock	153	-	-	-	-	-	122
Hartpury	72	-	-	-	17	-	-
Newent Grammar	507	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pauntley	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
Picklenash Primary	310	2	11	1	1	-	-
Lowbands Redmarley	58	-	-	-	-	17	30
Staunton	45	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tibberton	36	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upleadon	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1324	2	11	1	20	17	162

In accordance with the recommendation of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of Infectious Disease, although one school (Dymock) was closed for a few days by the School Managers on account of 'Flu.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculosis is becoming a much less serious disease, due partly to earlier diagnosis (mass radiography) new drugs and improved surgery, but also due to improved living conditions in which better housing and less poverty play a very large part.

In 1957 the death rate in England and Wales for tuberculosis was 0.107 per 1,000 population, compared with 0.12 in this District.

This table shows the New Cases, In Transfers and Deaths for Tuberculosis, for the last 21 years.

Table 18.

Year	Pop. of District	New and I.T. Cases	Per 1000 Pop.	Deaths	Per 1000 Pop.	No. on Register	Per 1000 Pop.
1937	7220	10	1.39	7	0.97	34	4.7
1938	7233	11	1.52	4	0.55	35	4.8
1939 )							
1940 )							
1941 )							
1942 )							
1943	8204	11	1.34	5	0.60	61	7.4
1944	7832	10	1.28	1	0.12	69	8.9
1945	7685	14	1.82	3	0.39	51	6.6
1946	7827	15	1.90	7	0.89	48	6.1
1947	7766	6	0.77	3	0.38	41	5.2
1948	8135	8	0.96	4	0.49	34	4.1
1949	8202	5	0.60	3	0.30	34	4.1
1950	8361	7	0.84	2	0.24	29	3.4
1951	8220	9	1.09	1	0.12	33	4.0
1952	8121	9	1.10	-	-	36	4.4
1953	8146	8	0.98	1	0.12	33	4.0
1954	8210	6	0.73	1	0.12	36	4.4
1955	8270	6	0.73	+	-	35	4.2
1956	8300	9	1.08	1	0.12	31	3.7
1957	8420	2	0.23	1	0.12	31	3.7

New, In Transfer cases, Deaths and Number remaining on the Register on 31st December, 1957.

Table 19

	Respiratory		Leninges & C.N.S.		Other forms		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
New Cases	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
In-transfer cases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
On Register 31.12.57	16	10	-	1	1	3	31

It is very satisfactory to note that there were only two new cases in 1957, which is the lowest yet reached. The number of deaths and cases of tuberculosis in the District also remain low.



PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)  
REGULATIONS, 1925.  
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (SECTION 172).

No action was necessary under the above Regulations and Act.

Re-Housing of Tuberculosis Cases.

Good housing is one of the essentials in the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis, and cases where this is unsatisfactory are reported to the Public Health Committee.

8 tuberculosis cases are now living in Council Houses.

Tuberculosis After Care.

A Joint Committee serves this District, the Borough of Tewkesbury and the Rural District of Gloucester.

Funds are dependent on voluntary subscriptions which are very usefully augmented by the County Council, from the charity levy on the Sunday opening of cinemas.

No necessitous case has been refused assistance.

CANCER.

Table 20.

Death Rates from Cancer per 1,000 population.

	England & Wales.		Newent Rural District.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cancer of the Lung etc.	0.759	0.116	0.35	Nil.
Other Cancer	1.553	1.775	0.35	0.95.

It will be noted that deaths from all types of cancer are considerably lower in this District than in England and Wales.



Table 21

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

## Distribution of Cases by Parishes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.	Number of Cases by Age Groups.								Age not Known.	Total.
	0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45		
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excl. G.I.)	1	4	17	22	2	-	1	-	47	5
Ac. Poliomyelitis (P.)	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
" (N.P.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" (meninges).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" (other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Encephalitis (inf.).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" (post-inf.).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Pneumonia (prim. or 'flu')	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para-typhoid fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Larysiphelias.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria (contr. E & W).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	3	19	27	2	-	2	3	-	62
	5	-	7	-	1	46	-	-	-	-
	-	-	2	1						



CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1957.

Table 22 gives the causes of death in the District in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations 1948.

Table 22.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male.	Female.
1. Tuberculosis respiratory .....	1	-
2. Tuberculosis other .....	-	-
3. Syphilis disease .....	-	1
4. Diphtheria .....	-	-
5. Whooping Cough .....	-	-
6. meningococcal infections .....	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis .....	-	-
8. Measles .....	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	-	-
10. (Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	1	1
11. ( " " Lung, bronchus .....	3	-
12. ( " " breast .....	-	2
13. ( " " Uterus .....	-	-
14. (Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	2	5
15. (Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	-	-
16. Diabetes .....	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	4	5
18. Coronary disease, angina .....	8	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease .....	1	-
20. Other heart disease .....	8	7
21. Other circulatory disease .....	3	-
22. Influenza .....	1	-
23. Pneumonia .....	-	1
24. Bronchitis .....	4	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .....	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .....	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	-	-
31. Congenital malformations .....	3	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	5	3-
33. Motor vehicle accidents .....	-	-
34. All other accidents .....	2	1
35. Suicide .....	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war .....	-	-
Total	50	33

Explanatory Note : x Neoplasm = Cancer.





W. Ghose

C.D

